For Immediate Release October 14, 2005 For Additional Information
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BLM SEEKS COMMENTS ON PROPOSALS FOR JOHN DUNN BRIDGE RECREATION PROJECT

Taos, NM – The BLM's Taos Field Office will open a 30-day public review and comment period for its John Dunn Bridge Recreation Project Plan-Environmental Assessment. The comment period will start October 21 and run through November 21, 2005.

Over the past three years, BLM specialists conducted public meetings at the Taos Field Office and at the Arroyo Hondo Community Center. As a result of in-depth discussions with meeting participants, the BLM developed three alternatives for actions related to vehicle access, erosion, toilet facilities, security, trash, local use and interpretation. Each alternative is analyzed in the Environmental Assessment.

The historic John Dunn Bridge west shoreline is the main launch access for the famous "Taos Box" river trip. "The Box" trip is the premier New Mexico whitewater experience from roughly Memorial Day through Labor Day. The site is highly valued by the community for fishing, hiking, picnicking and other outdoor activities.

"The high level of involvement by community members led to creative solutions for management of the site," said Sam DesGeorges, Manager of the Taos Field Office.

Written comments can be mailed to or faxed to Tami Torres at the BLM Taos Field Office, 226 Cruz Alta Road, Taos, NM 87571, fax 505.758.1620.

For more information about this effort, please contact Tami Torres at (505) 758-8851. Copies of the Environmental Assessment are available at the Taos Field Office, 226 Cruz Alta Road, Taos, New Mexico.

